subsumed into the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme from 2006-07. Special plans for Bihar and the KBK districts of Orissa are handled by the Planning Commission. The allocation under the district component of BRGF consists of two funding windows (a) fund for capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions and (b) an untied developmental grant. The outlay for the district component under the BRGF during 2006-07 was Rs. 3750 crore and the same is Rs. 4670 crore for 2007-08. The *sine qua non* for the release of grants under BRGF in the preparation of district plans in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Constitution.

(c) Nineteen districts of Orissa, including the KBK districts, namely, Koraput, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Nawrangpur, Raigada, Sonapur, Nuapada and Malkangiri, are covered under the BRGF programme. List is given in the Statement *(See* below). Orissa is entitled to a sum of Rs. 454.26 crore for the Financial Year 2007-08, under the Backward Regions Grant Fund. This includes Rs. 19.00 crore under the component of capacity building, Rs. 130.00 crore under the Special Plan to the eight KBK Districts and the balance Rs. 305.26 crore as untied grant under the district component of the BRGF to all 19 districts covered under BRGF in Orissa, including eight KBK districts.

***Statement***

*List of Districts of Orissa covered under the BRGF* Orissa

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Bolangir | 2 | Boudh | 3 | Debagarh | 4 | Dhenkanal |
| 5 | Gajapati | 6 | Ganjam | 7 | Jharsuguda | 8 | Kalahandi |
| 9 | Keonjhar | 10 | Koraput | 11 | Malkangiri | 12 | Mayurbhanj |
| 13 | Nabrangpur | 14 | Nuapada | 15 | Phulbani | 16 | Rayagada |
| 17 | Sambalpur | 18 | Sonapur | 19 | Sundargarh | | |

**India's rank in corruption index**

1296. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Transparency International Programme Coordinator for South Asia has reportedly ranked India as among the 'most corrupt societies in world', and adding that no Asian country figures in list of ten cleanest countries;

(b) whether NGO's Bribe Payer's Index, 2006 has reportedly shown that out of 30 countries, surveyed by index, India was worst-most willing world's No. 1 bribe payer and whether Government subscribe this report; and

(c) if so, what corrective measures Government propose to take to. remove corruption because India is considered as an 'emerging economy and emerging export power'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) According to the "Corruption Perception Index, 2006" published by the Transparency International, India is ranked at 70th place out of a total of 163 countries.

(b) The Government has not undertaken any surveyor study in this regard and therefore, can not subscribe to this findings.

(c) The Government is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance" on corruption and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life. Several steps have been initiated to remove corruption and to improve functioning of Government. Important among these steps are:-

(a) Enactment of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003;

(b) Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(c) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(d) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance;

(e) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting processes by the CVC.

Government organizations are also constantly engaged in improving their functioning through e-Govemance, issue of Citizen Charters and simplification of procedures and systems, which are aimed at eradicating corruption by improving transparency and accountability.

**Public servants indulging in corruption**

1297. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 2006, CBI booked 1917 public servants from different Government agencies for allegedly indulging in corruption;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that were booked in the years 2004 and 2005;

(c) the number of cases that are pending primarily due to unavailability of prosecution sanction, year-wise; and

(d) the number of months that Government take to grant sanction in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 2004 and 2005, the CBI registered 926 and 915 cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act respectively.